

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14 and 15 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 6-9 are amended, and claim 3 is canceled. No new matter is involved. Claims 1, 6-9, and 15 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 4 and 6-8 contain allowable subject matter. The subject matter of claim 4 has been added to claim 1 to make claim 1, as amended, allowable over the applied art of record. Moreover, claims 6, 7 and 8 have been amended by re-writing each of those claims in independent form to place them in condition for allowance.

OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 1 AND 9

The Office Action objects to claim 1 because the meaning of the language "making a formula f the physical parameter for the force" has not been ascertained. Also, in claim 9, the meaning of the language "formula made in advance using data on a relationship between the force exerted on the wheel and the physical parameter of the vehicle wheel" has not been ascertained.

In an attempt to overcome this objection, Applicant has amended claim 1 to read, in pertinent part, - - making a formula that calculates the physical parameter in terms of the force exerted on the vehicle wheel, using the obtained data on the relationship - -.

Similarly, claim 9 has been amended to read, in pertinent part, - - a memory in which a formula that calculates the physical parameter ~~for~~ in terms of the force exerted on the vehicle wheel at at least one predetermined measuring position is stored - -.

Applicant respectfully submit that claims 1 and 9, as amended, positively recite a combination of features whose meaning is clear and definite.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §102

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 6,263,728 to Sumiya et al. ("Sumiya"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, includes the subject matter of claim 4, which the outstanding Office Action indicates is allowable over the applied art. Accordingly claim 1, as dependent claims 2 and 3, that depend from claim 1, are allowable over the art of record.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 1-3 are respectfully requested.

Applicant also notes that claim 1 has been amended to include the language, "outputting the calculated force," based on a telephone interview with Examiner Pretlow on August 8, 2006. Basis for this language is found, for example, on page 2 of the main body of Applicant's specification.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §103

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sumiya in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,913, 240 to Drahne et al. ("Drahne"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 depends from amended claim 1 and is allowable at least because it recites the allowable subject matter in amended claim 1.

Even if one of ordinary skill in the art were properly motivated to modify Sumiya, as suggested, the resulting modification of Sumiya would not render claim 5 obvious because claim 5 depends from allowable, amended, claim 1.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claim 5 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn, and that all pending claims be allowed.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 46,472 at (703) 205-8076 in the Washington, D.C. area.

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Reply to Office Action of May 9, 2006

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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